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Moliere's Comedy Tartuffe

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DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH AND THEATRE

PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESENTS



MOLIÈRE'S Comedy
tartuffe

DIRECTED BY DR. CARY CLASZ

APRIL 12, 14, 15, 16, 1983

KELCE AUDITORIUM

8:00 P.M.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR . . .

Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin, 1622-1673) is one of the most skillful and inventive comic dramatists of all time. He served his theatrical apprenticeship with the Illustre Theatre touring France for 13 years as actor, dramatists and manager doing plays after the Italian style. In 1658 Louis XIV was so impressed by one of Moliere's farces that he granted special permission for the troupe to remain in Paris.

Moliere's satires were so popular that he remained secure in royal patronage for the rest of his life. He created a number of court plays for which Lully wrote the music, but eleven of his comedies secured his immortality as a comic genius.

ABOUT THE MUSIC . . .

No doubt the music of Lully would provide the most perfect period accompaniment for any play of Moliere but we have chosen the more baroque Bach as rendered on the Moog as more expressive for contemporary audiences.

ABOUT THE PLAY . . .

Written in 1669, Tartuffe reaches the peak of artistry in the neoclassical mode. Here, within the restricted frame of one room, one day, and one main story, Moliere has created an excellent comedy of character.

The plot of Tartuffe can be divided into five stages: The demonstration of Tartuffe's complete hold over Orgon, the unmasking of Tartuffe, Tartuffe's attempted revenge, the foiling of Tartuffe's plan, and the happy resolution. The scene in which Orgon hides under the table while Tartuffe attempts to seduce Elmire, Orgon's wife, is one of the most amusing in all comic drama. The final resolution has been criticized as overly contrived, but it is emotionally satisfying since it reestablishes the norm. It is performed more often than any other play by Moliere.

THE CAST

Orgon Brad Burnett
Cleante Adam Seward
Tartuffe David Simon
Valere Todd Dodge
Damis Rod Burr
Mr. Loyal Arthur Whitehead
Officer John Wingeback
Mme. Prenell Judy Ruiz
Dorine Kamela White
Elmire Linda Jameson
Marianne Anna Arellano
Faipote Darla Harman

THE TIME: 1669 in Paris, France

THE PLACE: A room in Orgon's home

The play is in 3 acts with
two 10 minute intermissions.

We want to thank all individuals and organizations
who have loaned properties or in any other way
assisted with the preparation of this production.

THE CREW . . .

Director Dr. Cary Clasz

Costume Design and
Construction Barry Bengtson

Makeup Robert W. Gobetz

Set Design Nicki Leigh Jones

Set Construction Jeff Smith
 Steve McBride
 Linda Jameson

Lighting Stage Lighting Class

Stage Manager Nancy Jones

House Manager John Kreissler

Programs Jeff Merrell
 Karen Carter

Department Secretary Shirley Purdy

Department Chairman Dr. Harold W. Loy

Concessions Theta Alpha Phi

The Department of Speech and Theatre is an organizational member of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Mid-America Theatre Conference, and American Theatre Association.

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